House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 13 public bills, H.R. 3024–3036; and 2 resolutions, H. Res. 322 and 325, were introduced.

Pages H10767–68

Reports Filed: Reports were filed as follows:

Conference Report on H.R. 2159, making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998 (H. Rept. 105–401);

H. Res. 323, waiving points of order against the conference report to accompany H.R. 2159, making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998 (H. Rept. 105–402);

H. Res. 324, providing for concurrence in the Senate amendment with an amendment to H.R. 2607, making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998 (H. Rept. 105–403); and

H. Res. 326, providing for an exception from the limitation of clause 6(d) of rule X for the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight (H. Rept. 105–404); Pages H10602–29, H10767

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he designated Representative Petri to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. Page H10583

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, the Reverend Dr. Ronald F. Christian of Fairfax, Virginia.

Page H10583

Presidential Message—Weapons of Mass Destruction: Read a message from the President wherein he extends the national emergency with respect to the proliferation of nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons ("weapons of mass destruction")—referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered printed (H. Doc. 105–169).

Pages H10594-96

Recess: The House recessed at 1:14 p.m. and reconvened at 5:00 p.m. Page H10596

Resignation from the House of Representatives: Read a letter from Representative Foglietta wherein he resigns from the House of Representatives to become Ambassador to Italy.

Page H10596

Amtrak Reform and Accountability Act: Agreed to H. Res. 319, the rule providing for consideration of S. 738, to reform the statutes relating to Amtrak,

to authorize appropriations for Amtrak, by a yea and nay vote of 324 yeas to 72 nays, Roll No. 629.

Pages H10588-94, H10596-97

Expedited Procedures: The House agreed to H. Res. 314, as amended, waiving a requirement of clause 4(b) of rule XI with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules, by a yea and nay vote of 213 yeas to 193 nays, Roll No. 630.

Pages H10586–88, H10597–98

H. Res. 314 was amended by unanimous consent on November 9. Page H10581

Recess: The House recessed at 6:11 p.m. and reconvened at 6:53 p.m. Page H10598

Open Public Committee Proceedings to the Media: The House agreed to H. Res. 301, amending the Rules of the House of Representatives to repeal the exception to the requirement that public committee proceedings be open to all media by a recorded vote of 241 ayes to 165 noes, Roll No. 632.

Pages H10598-H10602, H10629-33, H10764

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Six Month Extension of ISTEA: S. 1519, to provide a 6-month extension of highway, highway safety, and transit programs pending enactment of a law reauthorizing the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991—clearing the measure for the President;

Pages H10633–38

Gift of Property for Audio and Visual Conservation and Restoration Facility: H.R. 2979, amended, to authorize acquisition of certain real property for the Library of Congress. The Clerk was authorized to make technical and conforming changes in the engrossment of the bill;

Pages H10638-41

Authorize Printing of Publications: S. Con. Res. 61, authorizing printing of a revised edition of the publication entitled "Our Flag," S. Con. Res. 62, authorizing printing of the brochure entitled "How Our Laws Are Made," and S. Con. Res. 63, authorizing printing of the pamphlet entitled "The Constitution of the United States of America;"

Page H10641

Authorization of Frank Mail: S. 1378, to extend the authorization of use of official mail in the location and recovery of missing children—clearing the measures for the President;

Pages H10641–42

Defense Authorization Technical Corrections: S. 1507, to amend the National Defense Authorization

Act for Fiscal Year 1998 to make certain technical corrections—clearing the measure for the President;

Pages H10642-43

Fort Berthold Indian Reservation Mineral Leasing: S. 1079, amended, to permit the mineral leasing of Indian land located within the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation in any case in which there is consent from a majority interest in the parcel of land under consideration for lease. Agreed to amend the title;

Pages H10643–46

Iranian Ballistic Missile Proliferation: H.R. 2709, amended, to impose certain sanctions on foreign persons who transfer items contributing to Iran's efforts to acquire, develop, or produce ballistic missile. Agreed to amend the title; Pages H10646-60

Bankruptcy Amendments Act: H.R. 764, amended, to make technical corrections to title 11, United States Code;

Pages H10660-63

Technical Amendments Re Vacating Arbitrator's Award: H.R. 2440, to make technical amendments to section 10 of title 9, United States Code;

Page H10663

Chickasaw Trail Economic Development Compact: H.J. Res. 95, granting the consent of Congress to the Chickasaw Trail Economic Development Compact; and Pages H10663-65

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Amendments: H.J. Res. 96, granting the consent and approval of Congress for the State of Maryland, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the District of Columbia to amend the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Regulation Compact. Pages H10665–67

Foreign Operations Conference Report: The House agreed to the conference report on H.R. 2159, making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998 by a yea and nay vote of 333 yeas to 76 nays with 1 voting "present", Roll No. 631.

Pages H10668-76, H10763

Earlier, agreed to H. Res. 323, the rule waiving points of order against the conference report by a voice vote.

Pages H10667–68

District of Columbia Appropriations: The House agreed to the Senate amendment to the text of H.R. 2607, making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998 with an amendment and disagreed to the Senate amendment to the title.

Pages H10681-H10763

Earlier, agreed to H. Res. 324, the rule providing for concurrence in the Senate amendment with an amendment, by a voice vote. Pursuant to the rule, the House agreed to the motion offered by the Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations that the House concur in the Senate amendment to the text with the amendment printed in H. Rept. 105–403, accompanying the rule, and disagree to the Senate amendment to the title. Pages H10676–81

Committee Election: Agreed to H. Res. 325 electing Representative Fossella to the Committees on Banking and Financial Services and Transportation and Infrastructure.

Page H10764

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate on Monday, November 10 and today appear on page H10584.

Referrals: S. 1115, to amend title 49, United States Code, to improve one-call notification process was referred to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure and Commerce; S. 1354, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to provide for the designation of common carriers not subject to the jurisdiction of a State commission as eligible telecommunications carriers was referred to the Committee on Commerce; S. 1505, to make technical and conforming amendments to the Museum and Library Services Act was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce; S. 1506, to amend the Professional Boxing Safety Act (P.L. 104-272) was referred to the Committees on Education and the Workforce and Commerce; S. 1511, to amend section 3165 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1998 to clarify the authority in the section was referred to the Committee on National Security; S. 537, to amend title III of the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend the mammography quality standards program was referred to the Committee on Commerce; S. 493, to amend section 1029 of title 18, United States Code, with respect to cellular telephone cloning paraphernalia was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary; S. Con. Res. 67, expressing the sense of Congress that the museum entitled "The Women's Museum: An Institute for the Future" in Dallas, Texas, be designated as a millennium project for the United States was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce; S. 156, to provide certain benefits of the Pick-Sloan Missouri River Basin program to the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe was referred to the Committee on Resources; S. 222, to establish an advisory commission to provide advice and recommendations on the creation of an integrated, coordinated Federal policy designed to prepare for and respond to serious drought emergencies was referred to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Resources, and Agriculture. Page H10765

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H10596-97, H10597-98, H10763, and H10764. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: Met at 12:00 noon and adjourned at 12:37 a.m.

Committee Meetings

OVERSIGHT—DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA WATER AUTHORITY

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight: Subcommittee on the District of Columbia held an oversight hearing on the status of the District of Columbia Water Authority. Testimony was heard from Michael McCabe, Administrator, Region 3, EPA; the following officials of the Water and Sewer Authority, District of Columbia: Michael Rogers, Chairman and Kerry N. Johnson, General Manager; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—FEDERAL DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight: Subcommittee on Government Management, Information, and Technology held an oversight hearing on Federal Debt Collection Practices. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Treasury: John D. Hawke, Jr., Under Secretary; and Gerald Murphy, Fiscal Assistant Secretary; John Gray, Deputy Administrator, SBA; Richard Keevey, Chief Financial Officer, Department of Housing and Urban Development; David A. Longanecker, Assistant Secretary, Postsecondary Education, Department of Education; and Dale W. Sopper, Acting Deputy Commissioner, SSA.

CONFERENCE REPORT—FOREIGN OPERATIONS APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, a rule waiving all points of order against the conference report on H.R. 2159, making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and against its consideration. The rule provides that the conference report shall be considered as read. Testimony was heard from Representatives Callahan, Gilman, Obey, and Pelosi.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS—CONCUR IN SENATE AMENDMENT WITH AN AMENDMENT

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, a rule on H.R. 2607, making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998—Concur in the Senate amendment with an amendment, which provides for a single motion offered by the Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations or his designee to concur in the Senate amendment to the text, any rule of the House to the contrary notwithstanding, with the amendment, with the amendment printed in the report of the Committee on Rules and disagree to the Senate amendment to the title. The rule provides that the Senate amendments and the motion be considered as read. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. Testimony was heard from Chairman Livingston and Representatives Davis of Virginia, Obey, Norton. Meek of Florida, and Jackson-Lee of Texas.

EXCEPTION TO HOUSE RULES—ALLOW COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM AND OVERSIGHT TO INCREASE SUBCOMMITTEES FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE 105TH CONGRESS

Committee on Rules: Ordered reported, by voice vote, H.Res. 326, which provides for an exception from the limitation of clause 6(d) of rule X (relating to the limitation on subcommittees) on subcommittees for the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight. The resolution allows the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight to increase its number of subcommittees from seven to eight for the remainder of the 105th Congress. Testimony was heard from Representatives Hastert and Waxman.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, **NOVEMBER 13, 1997**

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, to hold hearings to examine ways renewable fuels could aid in decreasing greenhouse gas emissions and increasing United States energy security, 9 a.m., SR-332.

Committee on the Judiciary, business meeting, to consider pending calendar business, 10 a.m., SD-226. S0627

House

Committee on Banking and Financial Services, hearing on East Asian Economic Conditions, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Commerce, hearing on the Tobacco Settlement: Views of the Administration and the State Attorneys General, 9:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, hearing on "Johnny Chung-His Unusual Access to the White House, His Political Donations, and Related Matters", 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.